

Air Force Court-Martial Summaries

April 2016



This report lists convictions and acquittals for general and special courts-martial. The Air Force publishes these cases for deterrence purposes. Each military justice case must be resolved on its own facts. There are no expected or required dispositions, outcomes, or sentences in any military justice case, other than those resulting from the individual facts and merits of a case and the application of due process of law. Adjudged sentences reported here do not reflect any relief on the sentence that may have been granted during clemency or on appeal. When an Airman agrees to plead guilty to charges in return for some action by the convening authority, those pretrial agreements are noted and any impact on the adjudged sentence is included in the summary.

AIR FORCE COURT-MARTIAL SUMMARIES – April 2016 (34 Cases)

General Court-Martial Convictions

At Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, Senior Airman Brandon M. Anderson was found guilty by military judge alone of assault consummated by battery. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a bad conduct discharge, and confinement for three months.

At Osan AB, Korea, Colonel David S. Cockrum was found guilty by military judge alone of conduct unbecoming an officer. He was sentenced to a reprimand, confinement for 30 days, and forfeiture of \$5,000 pay per month for eight months.

At Malmstrom AFB, MT, Airman First Class Alford A. Douglas was found guilty by officer and enlisted members of abusive sexual contact and assault consummated by battery. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), restriction to base for two months, hard labor without confinement for three months, and confinement for 11 months.

At Moody AFB, GA, Staff Sergeant Troy D. Ecklund was found guilty by military judge alone of sexual abuse of a child and producing, distributing, and possessing child pornography. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a dishonorable discharge, and confinement for 14 years. Pursuant to a pretrial agreement, the convening authority will not approve confinement in excess of 12 years.

At Scott AFB, IL, Senior Airman John D. Gonzalez was found guilty by officer and enlisted members of sexual assault. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a bad conduct discharge, confinement for six years, and total forfeitures.

At F.E. Warren AFB, WY, Senior Airman Darion A. Hamilton was found guilty by military judge alone of distributing and possessing child pornography. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a bad conduct discharge, confinement for two years, and total forfeitures. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the sentence.

At Kadena AB, Japan, Senior Airman Robert J. Kelgard was found guilty by military judge alone of sexual assault of a child, sexual abuse of a child, and possessing child pornography. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a dishonorable discharge, confinement for 18 years, and total forfeitures. Pursuant to a pretrial agreement, the convening authority will not approve confinement in excess of 15 years.

At Dyess AFB, TX, Technical Sergeant Carl J. Lambertson was found guilty by military judge alone of possessing, receiving, and viewing child pornography. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a reprimand, a dishonorable discharge, confinement for 40 months, and total forfeitures. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the sentence.

At Whiteman AFB, MO, Senior Airman Thomas J. Neill was found guilty by military judge alone of larceny of property valued over \$500, larceny of property valued under \$500, and housebreaking. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a bad conduct discharge, and confinement for four months.

At Travis AFB, CA, Major Joseph W. Pugh was found guilty by officer members of willful dereliction of duty. He was sentenced to a dismissal.

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At Tyndall AFB, FL, Staff Sergeant Dustin D. Richmond was found guilty by officer and enlisted members of assault consummated by battery. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman (E-2) and confinement for 45 days.

At Ramstein AB, Germany, Senior Airman Nikolas J. Smith was found guilty by officer and enlisted members of attempted sexual abuse of a child. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a dishonorable discharge, and confinement for one year.

At JB Langley-Eustis, VA, Airman Basic Alix N. Thorne was found guilty by military judge alone of wrongful use of controlled substances, breaking restriction, and being absent without leave. She was sentenced to a bad conduct discharge and confinement for 14 months.

General Court-Martial Acquittals

At Offutt AFB, NE, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer members of rape.

At Holloman AFB, NM, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer and enlisted members of sexual assault.

At Hurlburt Field, FL, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by military judge alone of rape and indecent acts with a child.

At JB Andrews, MD, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer members of aggravated sexual assault.

At Grand Forks AFB, ND, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer members of attempted sexual assault of a child and attempted sexual abuse of a child.

At Offutt AFB, NE, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer members of sexual assault and abusive sexual contact.

At Andersen AFB, Guam, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer members of abusive sexual contact.

At Tinker AFB, OK, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer and enlisted members of sexual assault and abusive sexual contact.

At JB Lewis-McChord, WA, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer members of sexual assault.

Special Court-Martial Convictions

At Vandenberg AFB, CA, Airman First Class Chae D. Balistreri was found guilty by officer members of wrongful use of a controlled substance. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a reprimand, confinement for four months, and forfeiture of \$783 pay per month for four months.

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At JB San Antonio-Lackland, TX, Airman Basic Christian I. Hooker was found guilty by officer members of wrongful use of a controlled substance. He was sentenced to a reprimand, confinement for six months, and forfeiture of \$1,044 pay per month for six months.

At MacDill AFB, FL, Staff Sergeant Charles W. Kalck, Jr. was found guilty by officer and enlisted members of making false official statements. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman First Class (E-3) and hard labor without confinement for 45 days.

At Eglin AFB, FL, Senior Airman Nelson W. Meurer was found guilty by military judge alone of sexual abuse of a child and enticing a child to engage in sexual activity. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a bad conduct discharge, confinement for 10 months, and forfeiture of \$1,000 pay per month for ten months. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the sentence.

At Goodfellow AFB, TX, Airman First Class Brian B. People was found guilty by military judge alone of wrongful use of a controlled substance. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1) and confinement for three months. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the sentence.

At Kadena AB, Japan, Airman First Class Carlos O. Perea was found guilty by military judge alone of attempted sexual abuse of a child and attempted possession of child pornography. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a bad conduct discharge, and confinement for eight months. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the sentence.

At Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ, Airman First Class Jesse T. Smith was found guilty by officer members of wrongful use of controlled substances. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a reprimand, and a bad conduct discharge.

At Barksdale AFB, LA, Technical Sergeant Lamar T. Waters was found guilty by military judge alone of wrongful appropriation of property valued at \$500 or less and wrongfully uttering checks without sufficient funds. He was sentenced to reduction to Airman First Class (E-3), confinement for six months, and forfeiture of \$800 pay per month for four months. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the sentence.

At JB Langley-Eustis, VA, Airman First Class Breanna T. Wilson was found guilty by military judge alone of wrongful distribution and use of controlled substances and willful dereliction of duty. She was sentenced to reduction to Airman Basic (E-1), a bad conduct discharge, and confinement for five months. The pretrial agreement had no effect on the sentence.

Special Court-Martial Acquittals

At Andersen AFB, Guam, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer members of wrongful use of a controlled substance.

At Seymour Johnson AFB, NC, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by military judge alone of fraud against the United States.

At Keesler AFB, MS, an enlisted Airman was acquitted by officer and enlisted members of assault consummated by battery, unlawful entry, and violating a general regulation.